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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, PFS

DATE: 28 February 1957

FROM : Chief, LAS

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report #9

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A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

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To meet an unanticipated requirement for intensive Polish, LAS is scheduling a course to begin about 18 March and to run full-time for six months. We are endeavoring to muster resources to conduct this course internally without specific cost to OTR. Failing this, we shall contract with [REDACTED] at a cost of about \$5,000. This requirement comes just too late to take advantage of an FSI course. Army Language School has been ruled out by LAS on a basis of cost and the uncertain quality of ALS since recent "militarization." All possibly interested components are being notified in order to avoid later isolated similar requirements arriving just too late to be accommodated by this course.

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B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

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1. A Qualifications Review Panel (consisting of [REDACTED] of EE, and [REDACTED] of OTR) considered seven candidates for intensive German. Panel recommended five for the next LAS course and two for the next FSI course. In the case of one of the five, a possible switch from LAS to FSI may be made following three weeks observation of performance.

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2. [REDACTED] is due in the office on Monday following his return from [REDACTED] and his field study of matters pertaining to possible initiation of a LAS-directed and supervised language program in [REDACTED]

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3. During the four-week period when lab technicians are not available to supervise the lab after hours, [REDACTED] and several of the clerical personnel of LAS are taking the responsibility for supervision from 5-8 each evening.

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4. A Persian test was given for one person by special request on 19 February. As NEA did not want to expose the person being tested to the LAS Persian instructor, the oral test was held in the evening at a safe-house, with an NEA agent who is a native speaker on the oral panel.

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5. [REDACTED] have obtained a commitment from [REDACTED] Chief of the Latin America Branch in OCI, to plan a lecture series for next fall on the "Strategic Importance of Latin America to the U.S." [REDACTED] agreement is conditioned upon approval by the AD/CI, who may be reluctant to go along in view of the expected absence of [REDACTED] D/Chief of the Western Europe Division, at the National War College. [REDACTED] would help provide some coverage on a hitherto totally neglected area by producing the basic series plan and leads to appropriate speakers, as well as delivering one of the lectures himself. Previous lecture series, on the Soviet Bloc and the Indian Sphere of Influence, drew uniformly large audiences.

6. Current enrollment in internal language training programs is 315, 182 in courses and 133 in self-study. During the past week, the language laboratory was used for a total of 311 hours by 79 students.

